

Numerous amendments that would have made this bill more balanced were rejected by the House Judiciary Committee. These include amendments that would have closed loopholes for millionaires, protected service members and veterans from means testing in bankruptcy, discouraged predatory lending practices, exempted debtors from means testing if their financial situations were caused by identity theft, limited the amount of interest that can be charged on any extension of credit to 30 percent, and, among several others, exempted debtors whose financial problems were caused by serious medical problems from means testing.

We must do something to curb the number of personal bankruptcies that strain our banks, credit unions, and responsible financial institutions. But we must not do so at the expense of children receiving court-ordered child support, our veterans, and college students and others lured by easy, high-interest credit.

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IN SUPPORT OF THE MEDICAL  
LABORATORY WEEK IN FLORIDA

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 25, 2005*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend and recognize the work of the health professionals who practice in medical

laboratories. In Florida, we will be commemorating the "Medical Laboratory Week" from April 25 to April 29 of 2005.

These professionals include laboratory technicians, medical technologists, cytotechnologists, histotechnologists, pathologists, and phlebotomists. They are well educated and highly trained professionals who are an integral part of our healthcare system and vital for the provision of medical testing.

These professionals serve our communities with great dedication and perform an invaluable work that is essential for the diagnosis of medical conditions and monitoring of treatment. Their work is a great contribution to our society and serves to improve the quality of care that our patients receive and deserve.

Please join me in recognizing the professionals who work in laboratory medicine, who have an honorable profession and help to provide exceptional patient care in Florida and in our Nation.

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TRIBUTE TO CH2M HILL

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 25, 2005*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a local Colorado company, CH2M Hill. Since the December 26 Asian tsunami disaster, many Americans have looked

into their hearts and reached their wallets in an effort to help alleviate suffering in Thailand, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and other affected nations. The employees of CH2M Hill were no exception, quickly responding to the disaster not just with funds, but with critical know how and badly needed technical assistance.

CH2M Hill was one of the first companies on the scene, and one of the most active in providing critical services to victims. They partnered with other companies to provide clean drinking water to people in Indonesia, setting up a mobile water treatment unit that is providing safe drinking water to the bulk of the population in Banda Aceh. The quality of the water is equivalent to bottled water, and is currently being provided throughout the area, including to the U.N. compound and more than 10 refugee camps. It was the first privately donated system up and running in the region, purifying water at the rate of 600 gallons per minute, producing 864,000 gallons of purified water daily. This will help nearly a quarter-of-a-million people every day.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of CEO Ralph Peterson and the employees of CH2M Hill. Their efforts are to be commended, and help demonstrate that the strength of America's compassion are always best measured by the efforts of individual citizens and private companies, not the number of government programs we create or the amount of federal money we appropriate.